



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton  
National Park

PO Box 170  
Moose, Wyoming 83012

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
June 18, 2002 02-33

Joan Anzelmo/Jackie Skaggs  
307 739-3393 (fax 739-3419)

---

## Grand Teton National Park News Release

### ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AVAILABLE FOR MOOSE VISITOR CENTER

Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Steve Martin announced that an environmental assessment (EA) titled *Moose Visitor Center and Area Plan* is now available for public review and comments. The Moose Visitor Center is located in Grand Teton National Park, 14 miles north of Jackson, Wyoming. The area addressed in the EA includes visitor service facilities, administrative facilities, employee housing, a post office and the Moose Village Store. All land within the project area is federally owned, with the exception of Moose Enterprises, Inc. and the Chapel of the Transfiguration. Comments on the EA will be accepted through **July 18, 2002**.

The existing visitor center and park administrative offices are of inadequate size to serve the needs of park visitors and employees. In addition, the current building lies within an area of significant seismic activity and does not meet seismic safety standards. Therefore, the National Park Service proposes to replace the existing building by constructing a new discovery and learning center, approximately 25,000 square feet in size, located southeast of the existing post office in an open woodland and sagebrush setting near the Snake River. A separate 20,000 square foot administration building would be built on the existing site to replace the current administration building. The proposed action **does not** analyze the interpretive exhibits or the interior design of the new visitor center or administration building.

Parking for the new, discovery and learning/visitor center would remain on the north side of the Teton Park Road and will increase in size from 2.5 to 4 acres. Access to the new visitor center would be via a 1,000-foot long path that passes underneath the Teton Park Road and winds through the woodlands and sagebrush. A small parking lot and access road on the south side of the Teton Park Road will provide access for physically disabled visitors and serve as the primary parking lot during winter. To improve pedestrian travel, a spur trail would be constructed to Menor's Ferry and the Chapel of the Transfiguration. A year-round bike and pedestrian pathway would be constructed adjacent to the road corridor, from the Moose employee housing area and administrative complex, to the new visitor center.

The boat parking area north of the Moose maintenance area would be reconfigured and expanded. Boat parking would be eliminated from the east side of the current visitor center parking lot. All access to the boat launch and boat-parking area would be through the west entrance to the main parking lot/administrative area.

**-MORE-**

---

**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA**

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

The environmental assessment also analyzes four other alternatives that include:

- Alternative A - a "no action" alternative resulting in continuation of existing conditions.
- Alternative B - reconstruction of a single combined visitor center and administrative facility on the existing site.
- Alternative C - improvement of vehicle circulation, visual quality and natural resources by locating visitor services away from the Teton Park Road corridor.
- Alternative D - development at Moose Village with minimal impacts to the landscape and visual quality through limitations on the amount of new ground disturbance.
- Alternative E - consideration of future development needs in the Moose Area. Under this alternative, a new visitor center would be located on the bench southeast of the Snake River.

Copies of the environmental assessment will be available on Friday, June 21 and may be requested by calling the Superintendent's Office at 307/739-3471 or by writing Superintendent, PO Box 170, Moose, WY 83012. Copies are also available at the Reference Desk in the Teton County Library. Beginning Wednesday, June 19, the document will be posted online at [www.nps.gov/grte/plans/planning.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grte/plans/planning.htm).

-NPS-  
[www.nps.gov/grte](http://www.nps.gov/grte)